

IOWA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS PRESS RELEASE

For release, May 9, 2001

Recently, the Iowa Board of Medical Examiners took the following action:

Shantikumar S. Avhad, M.D., a 50 year-old physician from Iowa City, Iowa, was charged with professional incompetency, engaging in practice harmful or detrimental to the public and knowingly making misleading, deceptive, untrue or fraudulent representations in the practice of medicine. Dr. Avhad was charged with providing inappropriate dermatological care and treatment to at least ten patients. A hearing in this matter is scheduled for July 18, 2001.

Robert A. Broer, M.D., a 71 year-old physician from Palm Springs, California, entered into a Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Board. Dr. Broer was charged by the Iowa Board with being disciplined by the Medical Board of California. The California Board charged Dr. Broer with negligence and failure to maintain appropriate medical records in his care of a single patient. Dr. Broer agreed to allow his California license to be placed in inactive status while he completed the requirements established by the California Board. Dr. Broer successfully completed the requirements established by the California Board and his license has been reactivated. The Iowa Board issued Dr. Broer a Citation and Warning for being disciplined by another licensing authority. Dr. Broer has not practiced in Iowa for some time.

Edmund B. Eisnaugle, D.O., a 53 year-old physician from Niles, Ohio, was charged with willful or repeated violations of a lawful order of the Board requiring him to submit to a Board ordered neuropsychological evaluation and with the inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety due to a mental condition. Dr. Eisnaugle was ordered to submit to a neuropsychological evaluation based on evidence of a mental or physical condition, which may impair his ability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety. To date, Dr. Eisnaugle has failed to comply with the Board Order. A hearing in this matter is scheduled for July 18, 2001.

Dean A. Everhart, M.D., a 69 year-old physician from Northport, New York, entered into a Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Board. Dr. Everhart was charged by the Iowa Board with being disciplined by New York Medical Board for being guilty of professional negligence, professional incompetence and failure to maintain appropriate medical records. Dr. Everhart's Iowa medical license is indefinitely suspended. Dr. Everhart has not practiced in Iowa for some time.

Sam Fayman, M.D., a 45 year-old physician from Burlington, Iowa, was charged with professional incompetency, engaging in practice harmful or detrimental to the public and knowingly making misleading, deceptive, untrue or fraudulent representations in the practice of medicine. Dr. Fayman was charged with providing inappropriate dermatological care and treatment to at least seven patients. A hearing in this matter is scheduled for July 18, 2001.

Steven L. Harlan, M.D., a 46 year-old dermatologist from Des Moines, Iowa, was charged with professional incompetency, engaging in practice harmful or detrimental to the public and failure to meet the acceptable and prevailing standard of care when delegating or supervising medical services provided by another physician, health care practitioner, or other individual who is collaborating with or acting as an agent, associate, or employee of the physician responsible for the patient's care. Dr. Harlan was charged with inappropriately delegating dermatological care to, and the failure to appropriately supervise care provided by other healthcare professionals, and inappropriately altering a medical record. A hearing in this matter is scheduled for July 18, 2001.

Raymond D. Heller, M.D., a 39 year-old physician from Fort Morgan, Colorado, was charged by the Iowa Board with being disciplined by the regulatory authority of another state. The Colorado Medical Board charged Dr. Heller with engaging in sexual relations with a co-worker within six months of providing medical treatment. Dr. Heller received a letter of admonition and he was required to enroll in a boundary education program. Dr. Heller has not practiced in Iowa for some time. A hearing in this matter is scheduled for July 18, 2001.

Donald R. Johnson, D.O., a 68 year-old physician from Cameron, Missouri, voluntarily surrendered his Iowa medical license to resolve a pending disciplinary investigation. Dr. Johnson's Missouri medical license was revoked on July 7, 1999, due to competency concerns. The Iowa Board initiated an investigation based on the Missouri disciplinary action. Dr. Johnson retired from the active practice of medicine in 1998. Dr. Johnson has not practiced in Iowa for some time.

Thomas F. Kalkhoff, D.O., a 43 year-old physician from Spirit Lake, Iowa, entered into a combined Statement of Charges, Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Board. Dr. Kalkhoff was charged with violating a statute or law, which relates to the practice of medicine, when on one occasion, he failed to appropriately report possible child abuse/neglect in violation of Iowa law. Dr. Kalkhoff was issued a Citation and Warning, ordered to successfully complete a Board approved course in child abuse recognition within ninety days and pay a \$5,000 civil penalty.

Deborah Jo Larson, D.O., a 62 year-old physician from Albuquerque, New Mexico, entered into a combined Statement of Charges, Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Board. Dr. Larson was charged by the Iowa Board with being disciplined by the Arizona Board of Medicine. Dr. Larson voluntarily surrendered her Arizona medical license upon allegations of substance abuse. Dr. Larson voluntarily surrendered her Iowa medical license to resolve the pending disciplinary matter. Dr. Larson has not practiced in Iowa for some time.

Mark J. Leding, D.O., a 42 year-old anesthesiologist formerly practicing in Ottumwa, Iowa, entered into a Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Board. Dr. Leding was charged with professional incompetency and knowingly making misleading, deceptive, untrue or fraudulent representations in the practice of medicine. Dr. Leding was required to undergo a comprehensive evaluation and successfully complete a course in professional ethics. Dr. Leding's Iowa medical license was suspended for one year, all but thirty days was stayed by the Board. Dr. Leding was ordered to pay a \$5,000 civil penalty and his license was placed on probation for a period of five years under certain terms and conditions.

Joseph W. Lucero, M.D., a 44 year-old physician from Chugiak, Alaska, had charges against his Iowa medical license dismissed. On January 11, 2001, Dr. Lucero was charged by the Iowa Board with being disciplined by the Alaska Medical Board. The Iowa Board determined that disciplinary action is not appropriate. Dr. Lucero has not practiced medicine in Iowa for some time.

James A. Maroc, M.D., a 68 year-old physician practicing in Williamsburg, Iowa, entered into a Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Board. Dr. Maroc was charged with engaging in unethical conduct or practice harmful or detrimental to the public and with willful or repeated violations of a lawful order of the Board requiring him to submit to a neuropsychological evaluation ordered by the Board. The Board received allegations that Dr. Maroc engaged in inappropriate non-consensual sexual contact with two female minor children between 1978 and 1982. Dr. Maroc was ordered to successfully complete a professional sexual misconduct evaluation. Dr. Maroc failed to complete the evaluation. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Dr. Maroc is permanently prohibited from treating female patients unless a Board approved chaperone is present at all times. Dr. Maroc's Iowa medical license was placed on indefinite probation under certain terms and conditions and he was issued a Citation and Warning and ordered to pay a \$5,000 civil penalty.

Barry R. Maron, M.D., a 62 year-old physician from Albuquerque, New Mexico, entered into a Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Board. Dr. Maron was charged by the Iowa Board with being disciplined by the Michigan Board of Medicine. Dr. Maron's Michigan medical license was suspended for 30 days and placed on probation for a period of two (2) years under certain terms and conditions due to a mental or physical condition, which impaired his ability to practice medicine in a safe and competent manner. Dr. Maron voluntarily surrendered his Iowa medical license to resolve the pending disciplinary matter. Dr. Maron has not practiced in Iowa for some time.

Robert T. Obma, M.D., a 61 year-old physician from Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin, was charged by the Iowa Board with being disciplined by the regulatory authority of another state. The Wisconsin Medical Examining Board charged Dr. Obma with engaging in unprofessional conduct based on allegations he performed an improper and unnecessary breast examination on a patient. Dr. Obma was issued a reprimand for engaging in unprofessional conduct. Dr. Obma has not practiced in Iowa for some time. A hearing in this matter is scheduled for July 18, 2001.

Richard S. Rigmaiden, III, M.D., a 49 year-old physician from Omaha, Nebraska, was charged by the Iowa Board with being disciplined by the regulatory authority of another state. The Nebraska Medical Board charged Dr. Rigmaiden with unprofessional conduct based on allegations he prescribed controlled substances to his wife, used said prescriptions for his own use and failed to maintain appropriate medical records. Dr. Rigmaiden's Nebraska license was placed on probation for a period of two years and was ordered to pay a \$20,000 fine. The Nevada Medical Board initiated disciplinary action against Dr. Rigmaiden based on the Nebraska action. Dr. Rigmaiden has not practiced in Iowa for some time. A hearing in this matter is scheduled for July 18, 2001.

Robert C. Rutherford, M.D., a 59 year-old physician from Key West, Florida, entered into a Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Board. Dr. Rutherford was charged by the Iowa Board with being disciplined by the Florida Board of Medicine for failing to maintain appropriate medical records in his care and treatment of a single patient. The Iowa Board issued Dr. Rutherford a Citation and Warning for being disciplined by another licensing authority. Dr. Rutherford has not practiced in Iowa for some time.

Zhong Ye, M.D., a 40 year-old physician from Keokuk, Iowa, was charged with professional incompetency and engaging in practice harmful or detrimental to the public. Dr. Ye was charged with providing inappropriate dermatological care and treatment to at least five patients. A hearing in this matter is scheduled for July 18, 2001.

Jess M. Zarate, M.D., a 53 year-old physician from Des Moines, Iowa, was charged with being guilty of willful or repeated violations of a lawful rule of the Board when on numerous occasions, between 1997 and 1999, he selected billing codes which did not accurately reflect the medical services provided to numerous patients. A hearing in this matter is scheduled for July 18, 2001.